

MERRITT'S MISSIVE

To the War Department Tells an Interesting Story OF THE MANILA CAMPAIGN.

No Less Renowned than that of the Spanish General Wood, the American Commander Held no Communication with Aguinaldo, and all the Operations of the United States Forces were Conducted Without Reference to the Insurgent Forces—Great Bravery Displayed by our Soldiers—The Crowning Accomplishment of the Campaign.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The report of Major General Wesley Merritt of the operations about Manila was made public at the war department today. It is dated on board the transport China, August 31. After giving briefly the story of his embarkation and arrival at Manila, and the disposition of the troops there, he says:

"I found General Greene's command encamped on a strip of sandy land running parallel to the shore of the bay, and not far distant from the beach, but owing to the great difficulties of landing supplies the greater portion of the force had shelter tents only, and were suffering many discomforts, the camp being situated in a low, flat place, without shelter from the heat of the tropical sun or adequate protection from the terrific down pours of rain so frequent at this season. I was at once struck by the exemplary spirit of patient, even cheerful, endurance shown by the officers and men under such circumstances, and this feeling of admiration for the manner in which the American soldier, volunteer and regular alike, accept the necessary hardships of the work they have undertaken to do, has grown and increased with every phase of the difficulties and trying campaign which the troops of the Philippine expedition have brought to such a brilliant and successful conclusion.

General Merritt then speaks of Aguinaldo's accomplishments previous to his arrival, and continues:

"No Communication with Aguinaldo. As General Aguinaldo did not visit me on my arrival, or offer his services as a subordinate military leader, and as my instructions from the President fully contemplated the occupation of the islands by the American land forces, and stated that the powers of the military occupant are absolute and supreme and immediately operate upon the political condition of the inhabitants, I did not consider it wise to hold any direct communication with the insurgent leader until I could be in possession of the city of Manila especially, as I would not until then be in a position to issue a proclamation, and enforce my authority in the event that his pretensions should clash with my designs.

A Demand for Surrender.

"On the ninth a formal joint demand for the surrender of the city was sent in. This demand was based upon the hopelessness of the struggle on the part of the Spaniards, and that every consideration of humanity demanded that the city should not be subjected to bombardment under such circumstances. The captain general's reply, of same date, stated that the council of defense had declared that the demand could not be granted, but the captain general offered to consult his government. If we would allow him the time strictly necessary for the communication by way of Hong Kong. This was declined on our part, for the reason that it could, in the opinion of the admiral and myself, lead only to a continuance of the situation, with no immediate result favorable to us, and the necessity was apparent and very urgent that decisive action should be taken at once to compel the enemy to give up the town, in order to relieve our troops from the trenches, and from the great exposure to unhealthy conditions, which were unavoidable in a bivouac during the rainy season. The sea coast batteries in defense of Manila are so situated that it is impossible for ships to engage them without firing into the town, and as the bombardment of a city filled with women and children, sick and wounded, and containing a large amount of neutral property, could only be justified as a last resort, it was agreed between Admiral Dewey and myself that an attempt should be made to carry the extreme right of the Spanish line entrenchments in front of the positions at that time occupied by our troops, which, with its flank on the seashore, was entirely open to the fire of the navy.

"It was not my intention to press the assault at this point, in case the enemy should hold it in strong force, until after the navy had made practicable breaches in the works and shaken the confidence of the Spaniards, which could not be done by the army alone, owing to the absence of siege guns. This is indicated fully in the orders and memoranda of attack hereto appended. It was believed, however, as most desirable, in accordance with the principle of civilized warfare that the attempt should be made to drive the enemy out of his entrenchments before resorting to the bombardment of the city.

"The orders issued some time previously to the capture of Manila, and the operations of the six army corps, Brigadier General Thomas M. Anderson commanding, and in anticipation of the attack, General Anderson moved his headquarters from Cavite to the brigade camps and assumed direct command in the field. Copies of the written and verbal instructions referred to above and appended hereto, were given to the division and brigade commanders on the 12th and the troops entered the city on the 13th at an early hour in the morning.

The Assault on Spanish Lines. About 9 a. m. on that day our fleet steamed forward from Cavite and between 10 a. m. opened a hot and accurate

fire of heavy shells and rapid fire projectiles on the sea flank of the Spanish entrenchments. At the same time the Utah batteries, in position in our trenches near the "Calle Real" began firing with great accuracy. At 10:25 on a prearranged signal from our trenches that it was believed our troops could maintain a light line of skirmishers from the Colorado regiment of Greene's brigade passed over our trenches and deployed rapidly forward another line from the same regiment, forming a left flank of our works advancing swiftly up the beach in open order. Both these lines found the powder magazine fort and the trenches flanking it deserted, but as they passed over the Spanish works they were met by a sharp fire from an second line situated in the streets of Malate, by which a number of men were killed and wounded, among others the soldier who pulled down the Spanish colors still flying on the fort and raised our own.

Works of the second line soon gave way to the determined advance of Greene's troops and that officer pushed his brigade rapidly throughout Malate and over the bridges to occupy Binondo and San Miguel as contemplated in his instructions. In the meantime the brigades of General MacArthur, advancing simultaneously on the Pasay road, encountered a very sharp fire, coming from the block houses, trenches and woods in his front, positions which it was very difficult to carry, owing to the sandy conditions of the ground on both sides of the roads and the heavy undergrowth concealing the enemy. With much gallantry and excellent judgment on the part of the brigade commander and the troops engaged these difficulties were overcome with the minimum of loss, and the brigade advanced and held the bridges and the town of Malate, as was contemplated in his instructions.

The city of Manila was now in our possession, excepting the walled town, but shortly after the entry of our troops a white flag was displayed on the walls, whereupon Lieutenant Colonel C. A. Whittier, United States volunteers, of my staff, and Lieutenant Brumby, United States navy, representing Admiral Dewey, were sent ashore to communicate with the Spanish authorities, and to receive from the governor general and there, after a conversation with the Spanish authorities, a preliminary agreement of the terms of capitulation was signed by the captain general. This agreement was subsequently incorporated into the formal terms of capitulation, as arranged by the officers representing the two forces.

Immediately after the surrender the Spanish colors on the towers were lowered and the American flag displayed and saluted by the guns of the navy. The second Oregon regiment, which had proceeded by sea from Cavite was disembarked and entered the walled town as a provost guard and the plan for occupation of the city was carried out by the troops exactly as contemplated. I submit that for troops to enter under fire a town covering a wide area to rapidly deploy and guard all principal points in the city, and to plan for occupation of the city was carried out by the troops exactly as contemplated. I submit that for troops to enter under fire a town covering a wide area to rapidly deploy and guard all principal points in the city, and to plan for occupation of the city was carried out by the troops exactly as contemplated.

TRANSFORMED CITY.

The Frightful Conditions that Confronted our Army UPON ENTERING SANTIAGO.

Reeking with Filth and Hordes of Disease—How General Wood, the Military Governor, has Overcome the Difficult Problems that Presented Themselves. The City Thoroughly Cleaned and an Effective Sanitary System Established. The Streets Deeded and the Harbor Cleared out—A Wonderful Transformation.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Secretary Alger has received a long letter from General Leonard Wood, military governor of Santiago. It is personal to a great extent, but deals with many questions of interest to the public, and Secretary Alger has allowed some extracts to be published. It may be stated that the secretary feels that the course of events at Santiago has demonstrated the wisdom shown in the selection of General Wood for this peculiarly difficult post. Combining, as he did, medical skill with the highest type of soldierly qualities and executive ability, he was able to meet and overcome the problems presented at Santiago. The letter, moreover, presents vividly, the frightful conditions that confronted the American army of occupation after the surrender of Santiago.

General Wood says in part: "I have had," writes General Wood, "a very difficult position from a sanitary point of view, and not an altogether easy one from a military and civil standpoint. When we came into the city the sanitary situation was something frightful. There were a great many unburied dead in the houses, between two and three thousand Spanish wounded and sick and a great brood of half-starved and sick people, nearly twenty thousand in number, who had just returned from El Caney, where they had gone during the siege. The water supply of the city had been cut off; there was no water to be obtained, except from cisterns and a few wells, and the streets were full of dead animals and all sorts of filthy materials. I had to start in from the bottom, and repair the water works. Then came the removal of the dead. Some of these were burned, because the number was so great and decomposition had advanced to such an extent, that they could not be buried. Burning is not uncommonly practiced here during the epidemic season.

A Terrible Situation. "We had yellow fever all around us, and about twenty cases in the Spanish military hospital. The civil hospital was full of dying people, and public buildings were being used as hospitals. On the whole it was an extremely difficult task, requiring a great deal of hard work. I have been working systematically with every means at hand to improve the sanitary conditions of the city. It is in this department that a vast amount of work has been done. I have a force of about 170 men constantly employed, and at many times have nearly double this force working day and night to remove the vast accumulations of indescribable filth which has accumulated in the out-houses and yards, as well as the streets of the city, which is reputed to be one of the most unhealthy and dirty in the world. The death rate has dropped steadily since we came in, and is now about one-fourth of what it was in July. The water system has been put in order, and a great many repairs made to it, and the supply, although insufficient, is utilized to the greatest advantage.

"I have had to hire doctors for the hospitals, purchase medicine for them and supply them with beds and bedding and food; in fact, re-establish and take entire charge of them. I have also established a strict system of house inspection and inspection of the streets, and have a disinfecting department as well as a cleaning department. The city has been divided into five districts, in each of which is a relief station, where food is distributed and a physician in attendance who prescribes for those who present themselves sick and visits the sick in the houses. The police department, all doctors and the officials in each ward have received instructions to furnish these physicians a list of sick requiring attention, and also of the worthy poor, in order that we may be somewhat protected in the distribution of medicines and rations. I am issuing at present about 15,000 rations a day. The physicians are probably prescribing for about 600 or 700 people, and on some days more. These physicians are native Cubans, educated in the United States, and employed by our government as contract surgeons.

Sanitary Improvements Made. "The garbage and material which I collect in the streets I have dumped here and there, and burned. I have also had the lower and most unhealthy portion of the city ditched and drained and the ditches running into the harbor cleaned out; also the water front system of sewerage which was completely obstructed and in a frightful condition. It has long been the custom in this town to depend upon heavy rains and the rushing floods through the streets to sweep away the accumulated filth of the dry season. As this has been swept down to the front, where it has been collecting for years, choking the drains and filling the shallow waters near the shore so that when the tide goes out there come about naturally by death or retirement.

The Catholic authorities are expecting early word from Rome as to the new archbishop of Santiago, who takes the place of Archbishop Chapelle, now at New Orleans. The nominations for the Santa Fe archbishopric have been sent to Rome, although the name selected may be outside of those on the nominating list. The recent death of the bishop of Harrisburg leaves a vacancy in that post, which, however, will not be filled for some time.

No Hope for Such Crimes. MARTINSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Judge E. Boyd Faulkner to-day sentenced H. P. Peilers to twenty years in the penitentiary for committing criminal assault upon his thirteen-year-old sister-in-law in June last year. Peilers begged for mercy from the court, but the judge in his remarks replied that it was not in the power of the court to show mercy in such crimes as he was charged with.

similar to that worn by the Cubans, and they will soon be entirely rid of all suggestions of Spanish rule. "The light house system in the harbor I have re-established and arranged pilots, harbor masters, etc. "As the courts are yet running I have a full staff of judges each day of acting as police judge and clearing the docket of all sorts of old cases. Of course the most serious cases, such as crime, are being held for trial, either by military commission or by the courts when they are established and in operation. Expenses and Receipts. "The receipts of the city from customs since we occupied it, I understand from General Shafter and Lawton who have charge of this matter, have been about \$100,000. The expenses of the city per week, supporting the hospitals, cleaning the streets, doing the necessary engineering work, and the many little things are required to keep up the different departments of the city, \$25,000 to \$30,000. Of this about \$1,000 is for sanitary work and engineering, the balance for hospital, police, etc. "I have been as economical as possible, but have felt that in this matter of sanitation expense should not be taken into consideration as the lives of all Americans here might be said to depend upon a prompt and thorough correction of the frightful unsanitary condition in which the city was found. "The great epidemic of yellow fever, Dr. Guitierrez says, was in July, that an epidemic of yellow fever of great severity was absolutely unavoidable, and that we were destined to lose a large proportion of our people here. Thus far it has been avoided, and not only avoided, but today I do not know of an authentic case of genuine yellow fever in Santiago de Cuba proper, and every day increases our chances of escape."

SWEEPED BY FLAMES.

Colorado Forests on Fire and Devastating the Country.

MANY MOUNTAINS BLAZING

And High Winds Carrying the Destroying Element in Every Direction—Hundreds Levelled and Thousands of Dollars Worth of Timber Licked Up—Great Fires Before the Scorching Breath of the Hellish Furnace—Wisconsin Suffers, too. Towns of Cumberland and Vicinity Noting but a Smouldering Heap of Ruins.

DENVER, Col., Sept. 30.—The weather man can offer no hope for those on the western slope whose homes and crops are threatened by forest fires. There are no indications whatever of rain, and this seems to be the only element to stay the flames' fury. Throughout Eagle county, high winds have prevailed, giving a fresh impetus to the forest fires that are devastating the timber domain. In consequence, new territory is being devoured. The blaze rapidly extending along the grand reserves of Grand mountain, west of Homestake creek, and from present appearances will sweep the country to Bear mountain, at Minnertown. Back of Minnertown to the heads of Willow and Two Elk, the country is devastated, little remaining to feed the flames. From Hoosier mountain the wind has driven the fire to the edge of Gypsum creek. The settlers of Upper Gypsum, Ganno, Collins and others are fighting desperately to save their homes, and stop the passage across into the magnificent forests of West Brush. If it gets into Brush, the finest body of timber in the state is gone. No loss of life has been reported, but several people have lost their homes and their crops. All the game is leaving the country, escaping the smoke and heat of the blazing woods. Dispatches received here say that Whyley's peak, between North and Middle Park, is now a mass of flames, and it is greatly feared they will extend to both of these beautiful camping grounds. The fire has already cut a swath thirty-five miles long, from the Grand river almost to Dillon, in Summit county. The width is as yet unknown. Kremmling, in Grant county, has had a narrow escape, and the danger is not yet entirely over. The fire in the vicinity of Oursay are not as bad as for several days previous, but the smouldering embers may be fanned into an awful conflagration by the slightest wind. The fire around Aspen are working down the mountain side, toward the town, although they are not burning with the force they have been. At Gunnison, Crested Butte, Wolcott and Glenwood Springs the fire are still raging. No estimate of the damage to timber and ranches can be given, but it unquestionably runs far into thousands of dollars. Battlement, the government reserve, bounded by the Grand river on the north, Roaring Fork on the east and the Gunnison on the west, is a mass of flames. This reserve runs through the counties of Garfield, Delta and Mesa. The big White river government reserve, starting in Garfield county and extending through the Routt and Rio Blanco, is also on fire. Reliable reports show that the fire are now nearly three hundred miles in circumference, with Glenwood for a center and practically every mountain range with timber is ablaze. The only cessation of the fire that is reported comes from Cottonwood and four mile creeks, where the flames have consumed everything that will burn on the mountain sides. On the south side of the Rio Grande, from Minnertown to Glenwood, the railroad men report a steady blaze of fire plainly visible from the smaller valleys. Many ranches have been abandoned. There appears to be no hope of a cessation of the conflagration except by a heavy rain or the demolition of the timber by the destroying element. J. S. Swan, game commissioner, states there is no doubt but that the fire are caused by carelessness of campers and people generally during a season of exceptional dryness. Colonel W. T. S. May, chief United States forester, has gone to the west to inspect the country under government control where fires are burning.

Whole Country Aflame. CARBONDALE, Col., Sept. 30.—Bald mountain, above Cattle creek, is the place of this place, the entire ridge is aflame and the heavy west wind prevailing the last three days is driving it up along the mountains to the east end at present it extends for a distance of five miles to the southeast. For miles around to the northwest the Haystack mountain extending across to the Muddy country, another large fire is burning, while due west above Spring Creek large timber tracts covering hundreds of acres, are being destroyed. The men at Tucker's lumber camp, which furnishes timber for the mines, are hard at work protecting the timber and plowing to stop the advance of the flames. Northwest of here, above Sunshine, another large tract is burning. Due north from here between Spring Valley and Grand river a large tract of Mesa land, over fifteen miles in length, is burning.

FLAME SWEEP. Cumberland, Wisconsin, and Surrounding Country Suffers from Forest Fires. ST. PAUL, Sept. 30.—A Cumberland, Wis., special to the Dispatch says: Cumberland presents a sad sight to-day. The mill portion of the country is a smouldering heap of ruins. Loss about \$150,000. Forest fires were swept into the city from the southwest at about 5 o'clock last night by a tornado. The air was filled with smoke and burning cinders and the fire started on the east and west sides of town at about the same time. The flames spread with a rapidity that threatened not only the city, but the lives of the inhabitants. Every part of the town was with smoking and flying fire brands, and the people were running in every direction panic stricken. Two fire trains standing here took about 100 people to Shell Lake and hundreds of others sought the western lakeshore for refuge. Meanwhile the volunteer fire department did heroic work in trying to save the business portion of the city. A timely downpour of rain, lasting about twenty minutes, ended the firemen to check the progress of the flames on the west side of the town. Nothing could save the city east of the Omaha railroad, including the lumber yard and mills of the Beaver Dam Lumber Company, and the residences, including the fine house of Mayor Waterman. The buildings burned were the combined saw and shingle mill, planing mill, dry sheds and barns of the Beaver Dam Lumber Company; twenty-two residences, boarding house, live stock barn and saloon. The loss is roughly estimated as follows: Beaver Dam Lumber Company, \$150,000; residences, \$25,000; live stock barn, saloon and other buildings, \$50,000. All the property was insured except the residences, which were nearly all without insurance. About forty farmers southeast of the city lost all their barns and crops.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Sept. 30.—A special to the Journal from Chippewa Falls, Wis., says: The forest fires are still creating great havoc in the western section of the state. No rain has yet fallen in the district tributary to this point, and the lumber companies are sending hundreds of men into the woods in an endeavor to save the standing pine. It is estimated that about 500,000 feet of lumber have been destroyed. All trains coming into Chippewa Falls from the north and west are hours late. The Wisconsin Central is experiencing great difficulty in handling trains, as its wires are all down. A movement of 100,000 feet of lumber has been started to the west, but the lands are still fighting the flames, and are making little headway, as everything is as dry as tinder.

TREND OF TRADE. Smaller Failures in any Quarter for Years—Changes all for the Better—The Industries in Excellent Shape. NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—R. D. Duns & Co., in their weekly review of trade, will say: Failures in September have been about \$2,700,000, and for the quarter about \$2,875,000. No report covering the exact month or quarter is possible this week for a journal which must go to press on Friday the 30th, but the returns indicate a smaller aggregate of failures than in any other month in many years, except in August of this year, and smaller for the quarter than in any other quarter since 1892. In fact, excepting one quarter in that year, no other quarter has shown a smaller aggregate unless more than ten years ago, when the volume of solvent business was very much smaller than it is now. Evidently the complete returns to be given next week will show that the state of business is in that respect very satisfactory, that it has never been so good in one quarter of 1892.

Changes are all for the better, excepting the fall of cotton to its lowest point for fifty years, and even the lowest prices of 1948, considering difference of qualities, were perhaps a few points lower than prices this week. If there were not on hand commercial and mill stocks unusually large, or if manufacturers were more successful early recovery might seem probable, but the heavy fall in material has retarded the market, and is causing buyers to expect still lower prices for them, although after the decline last week goods now average lower than ever before. While the stagnation in wool continues with sales even smaller than in the year 1892, numerous mills have started temporarily in order to get out sample pieces. There has been no quotable decline in wool and scarcely any in goods, the recent reduction having stimulated a larger demand. The demand for boots and shoes seems a little better and recorded shipments have been larger than in September of any year previous except the last and larger than in any other year from January 1 to date. In the mill metal market, as in the case of iron, the indicators are all in and lead so far to indicate another consumption, while copper is strong at twelve and one-fourth cents for lake, and spelter going at 4.25. Nickel is higher at thirty-five to thirty-eight cents, and tin plates unchanged in spite of the enormous increase in production, though the desire to push smaller works into the consolidation which now commands 14 cents is said to threaten temporary decline. With pig iron firm everywhere in spite of the extraordinary output and Bessemer held at \$10.40 at Pittsburgh, while valley producers report 100,000 tons sold for delivery before June next, the consumption is evidently growing. The week's reported contracts include one for 17,000 tons of pipe from basic steel by the Standard Oil Company, another for 4,000 tons of pipe from the same source, and a large order for many ordinary and two large buildings and heavy orders for plates partly for two lake vessels and partly for eastern shipyards, which have larger business than ever. The demand for steel is now increasing, and the use of steel in some quarters below expectations and shipments are less active at Pittsburgh, though the mills are full of orders. Rail producers are negotiating a new compact and the usual eastern receipts are now running above even the extraordinary movement a year ago, both for the week and month. Corn is a fraction lower with some decrease in export demand, though the recent shipments would have been considered heavy in view of the fact that the last and can hardly be continued long. Failures for the week have been 150 in the United States, against 194 last year and 17 in Canada, against 35 last year.

Weather Forecast for To-day. For Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, threatening weather, followed by showers in the afternoon; fresh southeast winds. For West Virginia, rain; fresh east winds. Local Temperature. The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schepel, druggist, corner Market and Federal streets, was as follows: 7 a. m. .... 62 1 p. m. .... 72 2 p. m. .... 70 3 p. m. .... 77 4 p. m. .... 75 10 p. m. .... 61 Weather—Clear.

THE PHILIPPINES.

Senator Hanna Talks on the Subject Ex Cathedra.

HE SAYS SPAIN MUST YIELD

Her Sovereignty Over the Whole Archipelago—The Only Question that Concerns the United States Relative to the Form of Government Will Give the Islands—Hanna Asserts that "We are not Paying Money for or Buying Territory Which We now Control."

CLEVELAND, O., Sept. 30.—The Leader has from its Washington correspondent the following interview with Senator Hanna concerning the Philippine question, which is believed to represent the views of President McKinley: "I don't know what the instructions given to our peace commissioners are," said the senator, "but so far as concerns the negotiations which will be instituted in Paris to-morrow, I can see no other result than that Spain will have to relinquish her sovereignty over not only Luzon Island, but the entire Philippine archipelago. Spain has no reason to expect to be able to retain any portion of the group. She went into the water and lost and now ought to be prepared to submit all the consequences which such a defeat implies. I regard the Philippines as lost to Spain, and that being a foregone conclusion, in my opinion the problem which next confronts us relates to the form of government which will give the islands. It is well understood that Spain must abide by the verdict of our peace commissioners, whatever that may prove to be, for she is in no condition to renew the conflict, which has resulted so disastrously to her. She has no reason to believe that our commissioners will agree to any proposition which contemplates the continuation of Spanish control over any part of the group. I feel confident we will have no further trouble in an armed way with Spain. The only obstacle with which we may have to contend is the opposition of the insurgents to our plan of immediate withdrawal. We may find the Philippines tractable and willing to accept whatever form of government we will finally decide upon, so long as Spain will have no hand in its administration."

Regarding the reports which come from Paris that one of Spain's propositions to our commissioners will be that the United States pay her \$400,000,000 for the relinquishment of the Philippines, Senator Hanna said: "We are not paying money for or buying territory which we now control."

METHODIST CONFERENCE. Yesterday's Session of Unusual Interest. The Bishop's Address to Young Men to be Admitted to the Ministry—Hanna Business Transacted. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. MANNINGTON, W. Va., Sept. 30.—The M. E. conference began its second day's session at 8:30 a. m. to-day. Rev. Dr. A. Cameron conducted a half hour devotional service, which was enjoyed by a large congregation. At 9 o'clock the bishop appeared on the platform, and opened a business session. The minutes of yesterday's session were read by Secretary Ash and were approved. Reports of pastors from the Charleston district were called and the pastors responded in turn to their reports. The class for admission was called which had been fixed as the order of the day at 10:30, and the bishop proceeded to catechise auditors concerning the duties, responsibilities and solemn obligations they were to assume upon entering the ministry of the church. The address of the bishop on such occasions is always looked upon as one of the important features of the conference session, being sure to draw a large congregation of both ministers and citizens, and to-day was one of unusual interest owing to the national reputation of the speaker as an orator. The bishop was at his best and for more than an hour he held his audience spell-bound and when he signified his intention of closing his address with one shout "go on."

Chaplain S. K. Arbuchnot of the First West Virginia Volunteers appeared on the conference floor for the first time, in full uniform and was warmly greeted by everyone. Mr. Arbuchnot will not take an appointment this conference as he does not intend to leave the army, preferring to stay with the soldier boys to whom he is very much attached. Rev. Dr. W. V. Kelly, editor of the Methodist Review, was introduced and addressed the conference. The following named ministers were placed on the supernumerated list: B. L. Mercer, W. C. Rogers, T. G. W. Ford and Dr. A. J. Lyda. Dr. Lyda is the oldest member of the conference and has rounded sixty years of ministerial service. The bishop turned over to the conference \$393 divided from the Book Concern, and \$22 from the Chartered Fund. This money is used to support the widows and orphans of the conference. The evening was devoted to the interest of the church extension society, and Dr. A. J. Kynett, of Philadelphia, the secretary of the society, was the principal speaker of the evening.

Death due to Intoxication. SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. STEUBENVILLE, O., Sept. 30.—The badly decomposed body of Seth Harry Graham, aged fifty years, a painter, was found this morning in a vacant house on North High street by persons who had rented the house and forced an entrance. Graham had been papering the house and sleeping in it unknown to the owner. The owner knew that Graham was on a spree and had seen nothing of him or the keys for two weeks. Graham was found lying face downward in his undecorated bed. His clothing was scattered about the house. A hammer with blood on it was found lying near him, but there were no fractures on his head. It is thought he died while intoxicated.

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PARIS PEACE COMMISSION. The United States Commissioners Have Taken Possession of their Quarters. PARIS, Sept. 30.—The United States peace commission has taken possession of its working quarters, a suite of seven rooms on the ground floor of the Hotel Continental, at the corner of the Rue de Rivoli and the Rue Royal, commanding the Tuilleries gardens, and formerly used by the ex-Empress Eugenie. American flags drape the entrance of the peace commission's apartments. The clerical force of the commission has been systematically, and in no way working badly. The spirit of the Paris press is daily rendered in English for the information of the commissioners, and the same thing is done with the newspapers of Madrid. Many wooden boxes of records, data and authorities affecting the case of the United States were unpacked to-day, and carefully arranged.

The American commission held its usual session this morning. It is believed the commissioners are crystallizing their plans, and arranging the details of the work, which will be taken up when the commissions begin their joint sessions. This is the first incident day since the commission has been abroad, and the wives of the commissioners and other members of the party are devoting all to visiting the Louvre and other places of interest. The Spanish commissioners formally deny the various interviews and paragraphs purporting to give the substance of their instructions, which have appeared in the newspapers. The secretary of the Spanish commission, and the editor of the Associated Press with the American commission: "No member of our commission has given any interview, and all which have appeared in print as our instructions is false. We are here to defend our rights, and naturally we are not willing to discuss our weapons to our opponents."

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. Its Condition to be Considered at Annual Meeting of Archbishops. WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The condition of the Catholic church throughout the country will be considered at the annual meeting of the archbishops of the United States, which will be held at the Catholic University, beginning October 11. A full attendance of the leading figures of the church is expected, including Archbishop Keane, who has come from Rome to attend the annual gathering. The directors of the University hold their annual meeting at the same time. It is understood that the archbishops will deal with little outside of the routine affairs of the church, as there are no large questions pending. It is said that the meeting will not deal with the questions of Catholic authority in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. As the archbishops of Porto Rico are concerned, they are under an established Catholic archbishopric, which will not be disturbed in any way. The church authority is centered at Santiago, that being the old capital of the island, and the archbishop of Santiago has two suffragans, one at Havana and another at Porto Rico. The bishops at the two latter points, as well as the archbishop of Santiago, will remain in control of Catholic affairs. The purpose is to avoid upheavals such as would result from a sudden change in the governing power of the church in these quarters, so that no changes will be made until they come about naturally by death or retirement. The Catholic authorities are expecting early word from Rome as to the new archbishop of Santiago, who takes the place of Archbishop Chapelle, now at New Orleans. The nominations for the Santa Fe archbishopric have been sent to Rome, although the name selected may be outside of those on the nominating list. The recent death of the bishop of Harrisburg leaves a vacancy in that post, which, however, will not be filled for some time.

No Hope for Such Crimes. MARTINSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Judge E. Boyd Faulkner to-day sentenced H. P. Peilers to twenty years in the penitentiary for committing criminal assault upon his thirteen-year-old sister-in-law in June last year. Peilers begged for mercy from the court, but the judge in his remarks replied that it was not in the power of the court to show mercy in such crimes as he was charged with.

Sanitary Improvements Made. "The garbage and material which I collect in the streets I have dumped here and there, and burned. I have also had the lower and most unhealthy portion of the city ditched and drained and the ditches running into the harbor cleaned out; also the water front system of sewerage which was completely obstructed and in a frightful condition. It has long been the custom in this town to depend upon heavy rains and the rushing floods through the streets to sweep away the accumulated filth of the dry season. As this has been swept down to the front, where it has been collecting for years, choking the drains and filling the shallow waters near the shore so that when the tide goes out there come about naturally by death or retirement. The Catholic authorities are expecting early word from Rome as to the new archbishop of Santiago, who takes the place of Archbishop Chapelle, now at New Orleans. The nominations for the Santa Fe archbishopric have been sent to Rome, although the name selected may be outside of those on the nominating list. The recent death of the bishop of Harrisburg leaves a vacancy in that post, which, however, will not be filled for some time.

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similar to that worn by the Cubans, and they will soon be entirely rid of all suggestions of Spanish rule. "The light house system in the harbor I have re-established and arranged pilots, harbor masters, etc. "As the courts are yet running I have a full staff of judges each day of acting as police judge and clearing the docket of all sorts of old cases. Of course the most serious cases, such as crime, are being held for trial, either by military commission or by the courts when they are established and in operation. Expenses and Receipts. "The receipts of the city from customs since we occupied it, I understand from General Shafter and Lawton who have charge of this matter, have been about \$100,000. The expenses of the city per week, supporting the hospitals, cleaning the streets, doing the necessary engineering work, and the many little things are required to keep up the different departments of the city, \$25,000 to \$30,000. Of this about \$1,000 is for sanitary work and engineering, the balance for hospital, police, etc. "I have been as economical as possible, but have felt that in this matter of sanitation expense should not be taken into consideration as the lives of all Americans here might be said to depend upon a prompt and thorough correction of the frightful unsanitary condition in which the city was found. "The great epidemic of yellow fever, Dr. Guitierrez says, was in July, that an epidemic of yellow fever of great severity was absolutely unavoidable, and that we were destined to lose a large proportion of our people here. Thus far it has been avoided, and not only avoided, but today I do not know of an authentic case of genuine yellow fever in Santiago de Cuba proper, and every day increases our chances of escape."

THE PHILIPPINES.

Senator Hanna Talks on the Subject Ex Cathedra.

HE SAYS SPAIN MUST YIELD

Her Sovereignty Over the Whole Archipelago—The Only Question that Concerns the United States Relative to the Form of Government Will Give the Islands—Hanna Asserts that "We are not Paying Money for or Buying Territory Which We now Control."

CLEVELAND, O., Sept. 30.—The Leader has from its Washington correspondent the following interview with Senator Hanna concerning the Philippine question, which is believed to represent the views of President McKinley: "I don't know what the instructions given to our peace commissioners are," said the senator, "but so far as concerns the negotiations which will be instituted in Paris to-morrow, I can see no other result than that Spain will have to relinquish her sovereignty over not only Luzon Island, but the entire Philippine archipelago. Spain has no reason to expect to be able to retain any portion of the group. She went into the water and lost and now ought to be prepared to submit all the consequences which such a defeat implies. I regard the Philippines as lost to Spain, and that being a foregone conclusion, in my opinion the problem which next confronts us relates to the form of government which will give the islands. It is well understood that Spain must abide by the verdict of our peace commissioners, whatever that may prove to be, for she is in no condition to renew the conflict, which has resulted so disastrously to her. She has no reason to believe that our commissioners will agree to any proposition which contemplates the continuation of Spanish control over any part of the group. I feel confident we will have no further trouble in an armed way with Spain. The only obstacle with which we may have to contend is the opposition of the insurgents to our plan of immediate withdrawal. We may find the Philippines tractable and willing to accept whatever form of government we will finally decide upon, so long as Spain will have no hand in its administration."

Regarding the reports which come from Paris that one of Spain's propositions to our commissioners will be that the United States pay her \$400,000,000 for the relinquishment of the Philippines, Senator Hanna said: "We are not paying money for or buying territory which we now control."

METHODIST CONFERENCE. Yesterday's Session of Unusual Interest. The Bishop's Address to Young Men to be Admitted to the Ministry—Hanna Business Transacted. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. MANNINGTON, W. Va., Sept. 30.—The M. E. conference began its second day's session at 8:30 a. m. to-day. Rev. Dr. A. Cameron conducted a half hour devotional service, which was enjoyed by a large congregation. At 9 o'clock the bishop appeared on the platform, and opened a business session. The minutes of yesterday's session were read by Secretary Ash and were approved. Reports of pastors from the Charleston district were called and the pastors responded in turn to their reports. The class for admission was called which had been fixed as the order of the day at 10:30, and the bishop proceeded to catechise auditors concerning the duties, responsibilities and solemn obligations they were to assume upon entering the ministry of the church. The address of the bishop on such occasions is always looked upon as one of the important features of the conference session, being sure to draw a large congregation of both ministers and citizens, and to-day was one of unusual interest owing to the national reputation of the speaker as an orator. The bishop was at his best and for more than an hour he held his audience spell-bound and when he signified his intention of closing his address with one shout "go on."

Chaplain S. K. Arbuchnot of the First West Virginia Volunteers appeared on the conference floor for the first time, in full uniform and was warmly greeted by everyone. Mr. Arbuchnot will not take an appointment this conference as he does not intend to leave the army, preferring to stay with the soldier boys to whom he is very much attached. Rev. Dr. W. V. Kelly, editor of the Methodist Review, was introduced and addressed the conference. The following named ministers were placed on the supernumerated list: B. L. Mercer, W. C. Rogers, T. G. W. Ford and Dr. A. J. Lyda. Dr. Lyda is the oldest member of the conference and has rounded sixty years of ministerial service. The bishop turned over to the conference \$393 divided from the Book Concern, and \$22 from the Chartered Fund. This money is used to support the widows and orphans of the conference. The evening was devoted to the interest of the church extension society, and Dr. A. J. Kynett, of Philadelphia, the secretary of the society, was the principal speaker of the evening.

Death due to Intoxication. SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. STEUBENVILLE, O., Sept. 30.—The badly decomposed body of Seth Harry Graham, aged fifty years, a painter, was found this morning in a vacant house on North High street by persons who had rented the house and forced an entrance. Graham had been papering the house and sleeping in it unknown to the owner. The owner knew that Graham was on a spree and had seen nothing of him or the keys for two weeks. Graham was found lying face downward in his undecorated bed. His clothing was scattered about the house. A hammer with blood on it was found lying near him, but there were no fractures on his head. It is thought he died while intoxicated.

Weather Forecast for To-day. For Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, threatening weather, followed by showers in the afternoon; fresh southeast winds. For West Virginia, rain; fresh east winds. Local Temperature. The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schepel, druggist, corner Market